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Telegram sent to H. C. O., Monday, April 20th, at 5^h 0^m P.M. (translation): The orbit presents some resemblance to that of the first comet of 1822.

Telegram received from Berkeley, Monday, April 20th, at 10^h 20^m P. M. (translation):

Elements of Comet b, 1896 (SWIFT), *computed by* A. O. LEUSCHNER *and* F. H. SEARES.*

[The elements as received are given in column II above, for ready comparison with those of Professor AITKEN.]

THE USE OF THE SCIENCE OBSERVER CODE IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

A letter just received from Professor KREUTZ, of Kiel, gives the following particulars regarding the use of the Science Observer code in the transmission of astronomical telegrams to and from the Central Bureau of Astronomical Telegrams, at Kiel:

"Telegrams from America are received by the S. O. code. Telegrams from Kiel to America, Africa, Australia, and Madras are also sent by the S. O. code. On the Continent of Europe a number-code is employed, which has worked extremely well. Five figures (as 52687) are accepted in European telegraph offices as one word. On the Atlantic cables, three figures count as one word, while throughout the United States each figure is so counted. An experience of several years has shown the number-code to be entirely satisfactory throughout the Continent, and the S. O. code is seldom or never employed."

The number-code used in Europe was explained in No. 49 of these *Publications*. It cannot be employed in the United States, on account of the expense. E. S. H.

1896, April 4.

COMET TELEGRAMS IN THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE.—EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT OF MR. TEBBUTT'S OBSERVATORY FOR 1895.

"The telegrams announcing the discoveries of these comets, (the bright comets discovered by PERRINE† and BROOKS‡) were received, respectively, on November 19th and 26th, with the respective motions for the 17th and 21st, but without any indication of the direction of motion.

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* Printed in the *Astronomical Journal*, No. 373, of April 30, 1896.

† Comet *c*, '95, discovered November 18.1, G. M. T., at Mt. Hamilton.

‡ Comet *d*, '95, discovered November 21.8, G. M. T., at Geneva, N. Y.